

Lower Oahe Waterfowl Access Areas 2014-15 Waterfowl Report

For the Week of February 9, 2015

MAIL SHACK CREEK AREA

No hunter reports again this week from this area however there have been a fair number of birds that have worked their way back into the area. Birds were in and around a few of the fields over the weekend with very few hunters in the fields or pass shooting pits. The trails going into the parking areas are a little muddy in places but are accessible.

REGISTRATION AREA

Hunters in the decoy only registration fields have continued to have mixed success depending on the area they are hunting. Most of last week the majority of the birds were moving late in the afternoon with the warmer temperatures and full moon phase making it difficult to predict when the birds would move and where they would go to feed. Some of the fields in the area have some muddy areas but the hunters are able to get in and out of the fields without too much trouble.

To view the status of areas open or closed to hunting along with the types of crops in the fields at the bottom of the Lower Oahe page or by downloading the app to your smart phone.

PASS-SHOOTING AREAS

The pass shooting areas produced some good opportunities two weekends ago; however since then the weather and winds have been mild the pass shooting opportunities have been limited. The weather is showing some winds for a couple days this week which may get the birds flying out low enough to harvest a few. The pits in the Mail Shack Area had a few pass shooters in the pits over the weekend but no reports on their success.

SOLID AND STRIPED GREEN AREAS

The birds going towards the Stanley County area fields continue to be inconsistent, there are flocks going west but have been flying further west on most days. The solid green colored area west of 1804 have continued to have a few birds in and around them this past week and weekend with hunters having some good success putting out some decoys in the fields. The striped green colored fields east of Grey Goose Road continue to have birds in the area, however getting a pattern on them has been difficult. Reports from the area are of mixed results depending on if the birds that are going there decide to fly early or later in the day.

SUMMARY

The warm temperatures along with the full moon last week had the majority of the birds waiting until late afternoon to come out to feed in most of the areas. The times they have been coming out the past couple of days has improved with good numbers of birds coming out in the morning while the rest are still waiting until midafternoon to leave the water. There continues to be birds coming back up to the area from the south so getting a good pattern on where the birds will feed from day to day has been difficult.

The decoy loaner trailers have been busy and popular with the hunters this season with most weekends seeing both trailers reserved along with several weekdays. The doodle pages to reserve these trailers are updated each Sunday; the page allows hunters to reserve the trailers up to two weeks in advance. Information about the trailers and how to reserve them along with the liability waiver that will need to be filled out and signed can be found on the Lower Oahe Waterfowl page below the link to this report.